

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 ABU DH 01201 010945Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 /019 W
-----122787 011003Z /17

R 010749Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
TO USDOC WASHDC
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 7755
AMEMBASSY DOHA

UNCLAS ABU DHABI 1201

E O 11652: NA
TAGS: BTRA, BEXP, TC
SUBJ: TRAVEL OF ABU DHABI CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PRESIDENT

1. ASAAD AHMED ARAR, GENERAL MANAGER OF SAEED BIN AHMED AL OTAIBA & SONS, PLANS TO VISIT THE US THROUGHOUT THE MONTH OF JUNE, 1978. HE WILL ACCOMPANY SAEED BIN AHMED AL OTAIBA, PRESIDENT OF THY ABU DHABI CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, FATHER OF THE UAE'S PETROLEUM MINISTER AND CHEVROLET AND CADILLAC REPRESENTATIVE IN ABU DHABI.

2. MR. ARAR HAS REQUESTED ASSISTANCE IN ARRANGING APPOINTMENTS WITH THE FOLLOWING COMPANIES:
COCA-COLA-MIDDLE EAST MARKETING DIRECTOR; JEFFERSON CHEMICAL DIVISION OF TEXACO TO DISCUSS PETROCHEMICALS, LUBRICANTS, AND DRILLING FLUIDS; PHILCO DIV. OF FORD TO DISCUSS ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES; BOEING TO DISCUSS AIRPLANE SALES TO GULF AIR; ELECTRONIC COMPANIES TO DISCUSS NAVAIDS AND AIRPORT ELECTRONIC SYSTEM; CONSTRUCTION COMPANIES TO DISCUSS POSSIBLE SECOND ABU DHABI-QATAR HIGHWAY. HE ALSO EXPRESSED AN INTEREST IN COMPANIES MAKING MILITARY EQUIPMENT, BUT DID NOT SPECIFY TYPES OF EQUIPMENT.

3. MR. OTAIBA PLANS TO VISIT NEW YORK AND DETROIT AND IS WILLING TO TRAVEL TO OTHER CITIES AS NECESSARY. COMPANY IS ONE
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OF THE LARGEST IN ABU DHABI, COMPETENTLY MANAGED, AND HAS ACCESS TO WHATEVER AMOUNT OF CAPITAL IT NEEDS. AS HEAD OF THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, MR. OTAIBA IS NOT ONLY A VERY IMPORTANT BUSINESSMAN BUT ALSO IS A KEY FIGURE IN LICENSING AND REGULATING COMPANIES DOING BUSINESS IN ABU DHABI.

4. ACTION REQUESTED. EMBASSY ASKS THAT USDOC CABLE NAMES AND

ADDRESSES OF APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS TO POST AND ALSO DIRECTLY TO
MR. ARAR, TELEX NUMBER 2329 SAMTAIBA AH. EMBOFF HAS OUTLINED
US POLICY ON ARMS SALES TO THE LOWER GULF BUT OTAIBA IS STILL
INTERESTED IN REPRESENTING COMPANIES IN THAT SECTOG. MR. ARAR
SAID HE BELIEVES THQT FORD AND COKE WOULD BE COMING OFF THE
BLACKLIST SHORTLY.
DICKMAN

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